

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 22, 52 and 71 have been amended, and claims 72-74 have been added. No new matter has been added. For instance, support for the amendment and new claims appears e.g. at page 4, lines 8-11 and the original claims of the application.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 22, 24, 52 and 62-71 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Brock et al. (US Patent 644408) in view of Sinta. The rejection is traversed.

The cited documents, whether considered alone or in combination, fail to teach Applicants' claimed invention.

In particular, each of the pending claims calls for an underlayer composition that comprises two distinct resins, i.e. (i) a first resin that comprises optionally substituted phenyl groups, optionally substituted naphthyl groups, optionally substituted adamantyl groups, optionally substituted norbornyl groups, or optionally substituted isobornyl groups and (ii) a second resin that is distinct from the first resin and comprises one or more chromophore groups.

This is a preferred aspect of Applicants' invention as discussed at page 4, including at lines 27-30 as follows:

Particularly preferred underlayer compositions of the invention comprise a first resin that comprises etch-resistant moieties and a second resin (distinct i.e. non-covalently linked with respect to the first resin) that comprises chromophore moieties, i.e., the underlayer comprises a blend of distinct resins.

In clear contrast, the compositions of the cited primary document of Brock et al. contain a *single* resin. Nowhere does Brock et al. report a composition having multiple distinct resins as Applicants claims, or the benefits provided thereby.

The secondary citation. does not remedy such deficiencies of Brock et al. In particular, the Sinta document reports single-resin compositions. See, for instance, the examples of the Sinta document.

The cited documents also do not disclose other claimed aspects of Applicants' invention, such as resin groups recited in claims 73 and 74.

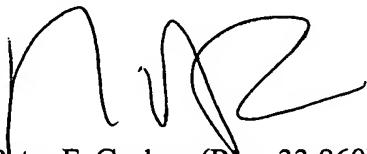
Thus, the rejection can not be sustained. This is mandated by Section 2143.03 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, which states in part:

To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.

In view thereof, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested.

It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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